

Missouri Attorney General's Opinions – 2024

Opinion	Date	Topic	Summary
1-2024	Jan 02	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the summary statement prepared for the initiative petition submitted by JoAnn Franklin amending Article XV of the Missouri Constitution (2024-168).
2-2024	Jan 02	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the summary statement prepared for the initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2024-170).
3-2024	Jan 03	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the summary statement prepared for the initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2024-171).
4-2024	Jan 03	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for an initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2024-172).
5-2024	Jan 16	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the summary statement prepared for the initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2024-172).
6-2024	Feb 29	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner amending Article XV of the Missouri Constitution (2024-173).
7-2024	Mar 18	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner amending Chapter 196, RSMo (2024-174).
8-2024	Mar 25	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for an initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner amending Article XV of the Missouri Constitution (2024-173).
9-2024	Apr 02	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the summary statement prepared for the initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner amending Article XV of the Missouri Constitution (2024-173).
10-2024	Apr 08	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for an initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner amending Chapter 196, RSMo (2024-174).
11-2024	Apr 18	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the summary statement prepared for the initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner amending Chapter 196, RSMo (2024-174).
12-2024	May 31	FAIR BALLOT	Review and approval of the legal content and form of the proposed

		LANGUAGE. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	fair ballot language prepared for the initiative petition submitted by Richard von Glahn amending Chapter 290, RSMo (2024-038).
13-2024	May 31	FAIR BALLOT LANGUAGE. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language prepared for the initiative petition submitted by Alixandra Cossette amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2024-160).
14-2024	May 31	FAIR BALLOT LANGUAGE. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language prepared for the initiative petition submitted by Greta Bax amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2024-165).
15-2024	Jun 04	FAIR BALLOT LANGUAGE. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language prepared for the initiative petition submitted by Anna Fitz-James per amending Article I of the Missouri Constitution (2024-086).
16-2024	Jun 17	FAIR BALLOT LANGUAGE. SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language prepared for Senate Joint Resolutions No. 38
17-2025	Jun 27	FAIR BALLOT LANGUAGE. SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language prepared for Senate Joint Resolutions No. 71
18-2026	Jun 27	FAIR BALLOT LANGUAGE. SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language prepared for Senate Joint Resolutions No. 78
19-2024	Jun 28	FISCAL NOTE SUMMARY. SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for Senate Joint Resolution No. 71.
20-2024	Jun 28	FISCAL NOTE SUMMARY. SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for Senate Joint Resolution No. 78.
21-2024	Nov 19	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Andrew Lynn amending Chapter 513, RSMo (2026-001).
22-2024	Nov 22	Nov 22	Letter to Honorable Mike Kehoe
23-2024	Nov 22	INITIATIVES.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative

		INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	petition submitted by Winston Apple amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2026-002).
24-2024	Dec 02	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Winston Apple amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2026-003).
25-2024	Dec 10	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2026-004).
26-2024	Dec 10	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2026-005).
27-2024	Dec 10	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2026-006).
28-2024	Dec 10	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2026-007).
29-2024	Dec 10	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2026-008).
30-2024	Dec 11	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for an initiative petition submitted by Winston Apple amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2026-002).
31-2024	Dec 19	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Jamie Howard amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2026-009).
32-2024	Dec 19	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Jamie Howard amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2026-010).
33-2024	Dec 19	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the summary statement prepared for the initiative petition submitted by Winston Apple amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2026-002).
34-2024	Dec 23	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for an initiative petition submitted by Winston Apple amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2026-003).
35-2024	Dec 23	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Jamie Howard amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2026-011).

36-2024	Dec 26	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Jamie Howard amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2026-012).
37-2024	Dec 26	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2026-004).
38-2024	Dec 26	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2026-005).
39-2024	Dec 26	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2026-006).
40-2024	Dec 26	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2026-007).
41-2024	Dec 26	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the legal content and form of a fiscal note summary prepared for an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner amending Article X of the Missouri Constitution (2026-008).
42-2024	Dec 30	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and approval of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Katherine Floyd amending Chapter 213, RSMo (2026-013).
43-2024	Dec 30	INITIATIVES. INITIATIVE PETITIONS.	Review and rejection of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Jamie Howard amending Article III of the Missouri Constitution (2026-014).



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

January 2, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 1-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:


This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 20, 2023, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by JoAnn Franklin, 2024-168. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow Missouri licensed Advanced Practice Registered Nurses commonly known as Certified Nurse Practitioners, Certified Clinical Nurse Specialists, Certified Nurse Midwives and Certified Nurse Anesthetists to prescribe schedule II-V controlled substances such as oxycodone and fentanyl;
- allow the Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to collaborate, without written consent, with other healthcare professionals as determined by the patient's needs, including but not limited to physicians, pharmacists, registered professional nurses, physical, occupational and speech therapists and audiologists; and
- restrict the General Assembly or executive branch from enacting laws or rules inconsistent with this measure?

Pursuant to § 116.334, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed statement. Because our review of the statement is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-001



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

January 2, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 2-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:


This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 20, 2023, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Deidre Hirner, 2024-170. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow county voters to set and control county taxes on cigarettes or tobacco products, whether submitted to county voters by the county governing body or by initiative petition; and
- use the county tobacco tax proceeds solely for education, health and mental health, crime prevention, job creation, veterans' services, or other local use specifically approved by voters?

Pursuant to § 116.334, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed statement. Because our review of the statement is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

January 3, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 3-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101


Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 22, 2023, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Deidre Hirner, 2024-171. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to allow county voters to set and control county taxes on cigarettes or tobacco products, whether submitted to county voters by the county governing body or by initiative petition?

Pursuant to § 116.334, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed statement. Because our review of the statement is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-003



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

January 3, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 4-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of December 22, 2023, submitting a fiscal note and fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for an initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner, 2024-172. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State and local governmental entities estimate no direct costs or savings. Attempts to implement a local tobacco tax, or to modify an existing local tobacco tax, could result in changes in revenue or increased election related or other costs for these entities that cannot be estimated.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-004



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

January 16, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 5-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated January 5, 2024, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Deidre Hirner, 2024-172. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow county voters to set and control county taxes on tobacco cigarettes, whether submitted to county voters by the county governing body or by initiative petition; and
- use the county tobacco tax proceeds solely for education, health and mental health, crime prevention, job creation, veterans' services, or other local use specifically approved by voters?

Pursuant to § 116.334, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed statement. Because our review of the statement is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-005



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

February 29, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 6-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated February 20, 2024, for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article X, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Deidre Hirner, 2024-173.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-007



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

March 18, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 7-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated March 8, 2024, for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Chapter 196, Revised Statutes of Missouri, submitted by Deidre Hirner, 2024-174.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-008



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

March 25, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 8-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of March 11, 2024, submitting a fiscal note and fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for an initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner, 2024-173. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State and local governmental entities estimate no costs or savings.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-009



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

April 1, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 9-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated March 22, 2024 for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2024-173. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow local voters the right, option, authority to set, control, impose, establish, levy, collect, fix, reduce, eliminate or change the rate or dedicated use of a county excise tax on tobacco cigarettes;
- allow any county tobacco cigarette tax to be approved by a majority of qualified voters casting ballots in a county election on a county-wide tobacco cigarette tax measure; and
- use the county tobacco tax proceeds solely for education, health and mental health, crime prevention, job creation, veterans' services, or other local use specifically approved by local voters?

Pursuant to § 116.334, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed statement. Because our review of the statement is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-011



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

April 8, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 10-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of March 28, 2024, submitting a fiscal note and fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for an initiative petition submitted by Deidre Hirner, 2024-174. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State government entities estimate annual increased revenue of approximately \$34 million, one-time costs of up to \$15,000, and annual increased costs of at least \$879,000. The revenue for local governmental entities could decreased by \$2.4 million annually due to decreased cigarette sales.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

April 19, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 11-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:


This opinion letter responds to your request dated April 9, 2024, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2024-174. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend Missouri law to:

- create a Childhood Cancer Treatment and Prevention Fund by imposing an additional tax of ten cents on tobacco cigarettes beginning January 1, 2025;
- require the fund to be used exclusively for the treatment and prevention of childhood cancers and be administered by the Children's Trust Fund Board;
- prohibit any money to be used for abortion or research which is banned by Missouri law; and
- require the state auditor to perform an annual audit and every three years provide a comprehensive report to the governor, general assembly and the public?

Pursuant to § 116.334, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed statement. Because our review of the statement is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

May 31, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 12-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated May 21, 2024, for our review under § 116.025, RSMo, of a proposed fair ballot language for Minimum Wage and Earned Paid Sick Time. The proposed fair ballot language statement is as follows:

A "yes" vote will amend Missouri statutes to increase the state minimum wage beginning January 1, 2025 to \$13.75 per hour and increase the hourly rate \$1.25, to \$15.00 per hour beginning January 2027. Annually the minimum wage will be adjusted based on the Consumer Price Index. The law will require employers with fifteen or more employees to provide one hour of paid sick leave for every thirty hours worked. The amendment will exempt governmental entities, political subdivisions, school districts and education institutions from the minimum wage increase.


A "no" vote will not amend Missouri law to make changes to the state minimum wage law.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Pursuant to § 116.025, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language statement.

Because our review of the fair ballot language statement is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-014



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

May 31, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 13-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated May 21, 2024, for our review under § 116.025, RSMo, of a proposed fair ballot language for Sports Wagering. The proposed fair ballot language statement is as follows:

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to permit licensed sports wagering regulated by the Missouri Gaming Commission and restrict sports betting to individuals physically located in the state and over the age of 21. The amendment includes a 10% wagering tax on revenues received to be appropriated for educational institutions in Missouri.


A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution regarding licensed regulated sports wagering.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Pursuant to § 116.025, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language statement.

Because our review of the fair ballot language statement is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-015



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

May 31, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 14-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated May 21, 2024, for our review under § 116.025, RSMo, of a proposed fair ballot language for Osage River Gambling Boat License. The proposed fair ballot language statement is as follows:

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to allow the Missouri Gaming Commission to issue an additional gambling boat license to operate an excursion gambling boat on the Osage River, between the Missouri River and the Bagnell Dam. All state revenue derived from the issuance of the gambling boat license shall be appropriated to early-childhood literacy programs in public institutions of elementary education.

A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution regarding gambling boat licensure.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Pursuant to § 116.025, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language statement.

Because our review of the fair ballot language statement is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-016



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

June 4, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 15-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated May 23, 2024, for our review under § 116.025, RSMo, of a proposed fair ballot language for Osage River Gambling Boat License. The proposed fair ballot language statement is as follows:

A "yes" vote will enshrine the right to abortion at any time of a pregnancy in the Missouri Constitution. Additionally, it will prohibit any regulation of abortion, including regulations designed to protect women undergoing abortions and prohibit any civil or criminal recourse against anyone who performs an abortion and hurts or kills the pregnant women.


A "no" vote will continue the statutory prohibition of abortion in Missouri.

If passed, this measure may reduce local taxes while the impact to state taxes is unknown.

Pursuant to § 116.025, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language statement.

Because our review of the fair ballot language statement is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-017



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

June 17, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 16-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated June 5, 2024, for our review under § 116.025, RSMo, of a proposed fair ballot language for Senate Substitute No. 2 for Senate Joint Resolution No. 38. The proposed fair ballot language statement is as follows:

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to allow the general assembly by law to increase the minimum funding for a police force established by the state board of police commissioners to ensure such police force has additional resources to serve its communities. Currently the only police force established by the state board of police commissioners is found in Kansas City, Missouri.


A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution regarding the funding for a police force established by the state board of police commissioners.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Pursuant to § 116.025, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language statement.

Because our review of the fair ballot language statement is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-018



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI

ANDREW BAILEY

June 27, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 17-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated June 18, 2024, for our review under § 116.025, RSMo, of a proposed fair ballot language for Senate Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Joint Resolution No. 71. The proposed fair ballot language statement is as follows:

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to levy costs and fees to support salaries and benefits for current and former sheriffs, prosecuting attorneys, and circuit attorneys to ensure all Missourians have access to the courts of justice.


A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution to levy costs and fees related to current or former sheriffs, prosecuting attorneys and circuit attorneys.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Pursuant to § 116.025, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language statement.

Because our review of the fair ballot language statement is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

June 27, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 18-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated June 18, 2024, for our review under § 116.025, RSMo, of a proposed fair ballot language Senate Substitute for Senate Joint Resolution No. 78. The proposed fair ballot language statement is as follows:

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to specify that only United States citizens are entitled to vote, voters shall only have a single vote for each candidate or issue, restrict any type of ranking of candidates for a particular office and require the person receiving the greatest number of votes at the primary election as a party candidate for an office shall be the only candidate for that party at the general election, and require the person receiving the greatest number of votes for each office at the general election shall be declared the winner. This provision does not apply to any nonpartisan municipal election held in a city that had an ordinance in effect as of November 5, 2024, that requires a preliminary election at which more than one candidate advances to a subsequent election.

A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution to make any changes to how voters vote in primary and general elections.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Pursuant to § 116.025, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language statement.

Because our review of the fair ballot language statement is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Bailey', is written over the printed name.

ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-020



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

June 28, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 19-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of June 20, 2024, submitting a fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for Senate Joint Resolution No. 71. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State and local governmental entities estimate an unknown fiscal impact.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-021



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

June 28, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 20-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of June 20, 2024, submitting a fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for Senate Joint Resolution No. 78. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State and local governmental entities estimate no costs or saving.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-022



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

November 19, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 21-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

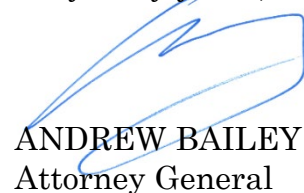
This opinion letter responds to your request dated November 8, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Andrew Lynn, Ch. 513, 2026-001.

We conclude that the petition must be rejected for at least the following reasons:

failure to recite the full text of the measure, including by bracketing all matters to be deleted and underlining all matters to be added as required in Section 116.050.2

Because of our rejection of the form of the petition for the reasons stated above, we have not reviewed the petition to determine whether additional deficiencies exist. Pursuant to § 116.332.4, RSMo, the Secretary of State is authorized to review this opinion and “make a final decision as to the approval or rejection of the form of the petition.”

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-023



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

November 22, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 22-2024

The Honorable Mike Kehoe
Governor Elect of Missouri
State Capitol
201 W. Capitol Avenue, Room 224
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Lieutenant Governor Kehoe:

This opinion letter provides an assessment of the legal effect of Amendment 3 on five statutes. Although the Secretary of State has not yet certified the results of the election, the unofficial results show that Amendment 3 was adopted—just barely—by a margin of 3%. In a contest where the “yes” side was able in effect to rewrite the ballot summary language, received tens of millions of dollars in funding from out of state, and outspent the “no” side 6 to 1, this tight margin suggests the result may be very different if a future constitutional amendment is put up for a vote.

Nonetheless, until and unless voters have an opportunity to vote again in a possible future election, Amendment 3 will render some statutes unenforceable. Your request for an opinion about the effect of Amendment 3 seeks an opinion about five statutes. Missouri statutes entirely prohibit elective abortion—*i.e.*, abortions other than those performed because of a medical emergency. §§ 188.017, -.030, RSMo. Missouri statutes also have overlapping provisions that prohibit elective abortions after 8 weeks (§ 188.056), 14 weeks (§ 188.057), and 18 weeks (§ 188.058). If Amendment 3 is certified and goes into effect, it will generally prohibit the Attorney General, the Governor, locally elected prosecutors, the Department of Health and Senior Services, the Division of Professional Registration, and other officials from enforcing these provisions.

That does not mean, however, that the statutes are *facially* unenforceable. A statute is facially unconstitutional only if “no set of circumstances exists under which the Act would be valid.” *State v. Kerr*, 905 S.W.2d 514, 515 (Mo. banc 1995) (quoting *United States v. Salerno*, 481 U.S. 739, 745 (1987)). If Amendment 3 is certified, there will remain some circumstances where these five statutes are enforceable, and the Attorney General will vigorously enforce them in those circumstances.

Broadway Building
P.O. Box 899
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: (573) 751-3321
Fax: (573) 751-0774
www.ago.mo.gov

First, under the express terms of the amendment, the government may still protect innocent life after viability. The statutes thus remain generally enforceable after viability. The Attorney General accordingly will continue to enforce these laws in those circumstances (subject to the life/health of the mother exception stated in the amendment), and other officials have a constitutional duty to do the same.

Second, the Attorney General will continue to enforce these statutes in circumstances where parents do not consent to an adolescent minor obtaining an abortion. Under the U.S. Constitution, parents have a “fundamental right ... to make decisions concerning the care, custody, and control of their children.” *Troxel v. Granville*, 530 U.S. 57, 66 (2000). This includes the “right to refuse unwanted medical treatment.” *Washington v. Glucksberg*, 521 U.S. 702, 725–26 (1997). Amendment 3 cannot displace that federal constitutional right.¹ These five statutes thus remain enforceable against abortion clinics and abortion physicians in circumstances where a parent has not consented to a minor obtaining an abortion.

The Supreme Court (wrongly) curtailed these traditional parental rights under the *Roe v. Wade* framework. See *Planned Parenthood of Cent. Mo. v. Danforth*, 428 U.S. 52, 74–75 (1976); *Bellotti v. Baird*, 443 U.S. 622, 643 (1979). But when the Supreme Court reversed the *Roe* line of cases, acknowledging that those decision were “egregiously wrong from the start” and an “abuse of judicial authority,” *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Org.*, 597 U.S. 215, 231 (2022), the Court restored longstanding parental rights. As a result, parents have a fundamental right—protected by the U.S. Constitution—to prohibit abortions on adolescent minors without parental consent. The Attorney General thus will continue to enforce these laws vigorously in circumstances where parents or legal guardians have not consented. Other officials have a duty to do the same.

Third, nothing in Amendment 3 provides a right to pressure others to obtain an abortion. The right of parents to forbid minors from obtaining abortions should not be misunderstood to somehow imply a right to *force* abortion on minors. Parents’ fundamental rights include the “right to *refuse*” a procedure, but courts have never “transmuted” this right to refuse into a right to obtain a procedure. *Glucksberg*, 521 U.S. at 725–26. Nothing in Amendment 3 does either. The Attorney General thus will continue to vigorously enforce all these laws in circumstances where an adolescent minor obtains an abortion due to unlawful pressure from parents.

The same is true for adults coerced into abortion. A recent peer-reviewed study found that 61% of women “reported high levels of pressure” to abort, including

¹ Along similar lines, Amendment 3 cannot displace any state official’s federal authority to enforce federal law. The Attorney General does not interpret Amendment 3 to authorize activities prohibited by federal law and will continue enforcing in any circumstance where activities by an abortion clinic violate federal law.

pressure from abortion clinics.² And there is an unfortunate, sordid history of coerced abortion in Missouri. Two years ago, for example, a sitting Congresswoman from St. Louis sat for a public interview where she revealed that an abortion clinic coerced her into having an abortion.³ Amendment 3 does not give abortion clinics a right to perform abortions on women who have been coerced. It would defy logic to say that an amendment meant to give a woman a right to an abortion (while eliminating the unborn child's rights) could instead be twisted into a tool enabling abusers and oppressors to coerce abortion. The Attorney General will thus continue enforcing these laws in circumstances where women have unlawfully been pressured to abort. Again, other officials have a duty to do likewise.

One final note: should Amendment 3 be construed more narrowly by courts or be amended or repealed in the future to permit greater protection of unborn life, that will automatically restore authority to the Attorney General and other officials to resume broader enforcement. Amendment 3 does not remove these statutes from the books, so there will be no need to reenact them if Amendment 3 is altered in the future. For example, although the Supreme Court declared the Fair Labor Standards Act unconstitutional with respect to state employees in 1976, when the Supreme Court reversed course a decade later, those statutes immediately became enforceable again without further act of Congress. *See Garcia v. San Antonio Metro. Transit Auth.*, 469 U.S. 528, 533–34, 555–57 (1985); *Nat'l League of Cities v. Usery*, 426 U.S. 833, 838, 851–52 (1976).

In sum, this letter responds to a request for an opinion about the effect of Amendment 3 on five statutes. The Attorney General concludes that Amendment 3, if certified, will generally prohibit the Attorney General and other officials from enforcing §§ 188.017, .030, .056, .057, and .058.⁴ The Attorney General thus will cease enforcing these statutes in general circumstances. But Amendment 3 and the U.S. Constitution permit the Attorney General and other officials to continue enforcing these laws after viability (with some exceptions), when there is no parental consent, and when the woman has been unlawfully pressured.

Sincerely,



ANDREW BAILEY
Missouri Attorney General

OP-2024-025

² David C. Reardon, Tessa Longbons, *Effects of Pressure to Abort on Women's Emotional Responses and Mental Health*, *Cureus* 15(1) (Jan. 31, 2023), doi:10.7759/cureus.34456.

³ *See Firing Line: Cori Bush* (PBS Oct. 7, 2022), <https://www.pbs.org/video/cori-bush-fzpcjd>.

⁴ The Attorney General has not received a request for an opinion about the effect of Amendment 3 on any other statute, so nothing in this letter should be construed one way or the other with respect to those other statutes.



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

November 22, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 23-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

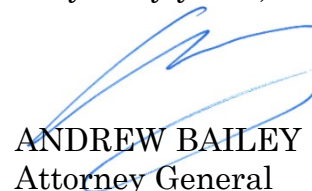
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated November 12, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article III, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Winston Apple, 2026-02.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 2, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 24-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

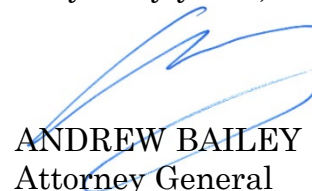
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated November 22, 2024, for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article III, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Winston Apple, 2026-003.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 10, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 25-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

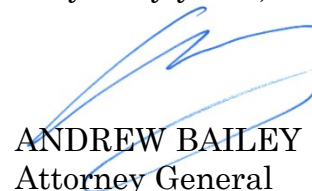
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated November 26, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article X, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-004.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,

A blue ink signature of Andrew Bailey is written over the text "ANDREW BAILEY".

ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 10, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 26-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

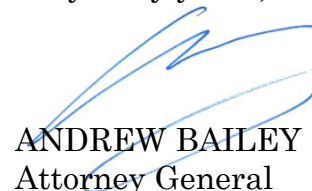
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated November 26, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article X, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-005.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,

A blue ink signature of Andrew Bailey is written over the name and title.

ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 6, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 27-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

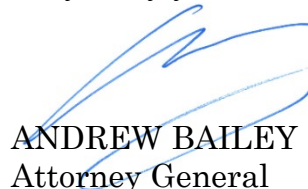
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated November 26, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article X, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-006.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 10, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 28-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

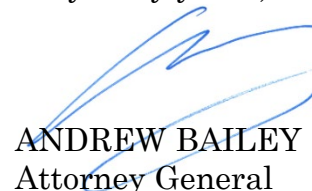
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated November 26, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article X, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-007.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 10, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 29-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

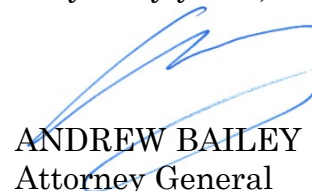
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated November 26, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article X, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-008.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 11, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 30-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

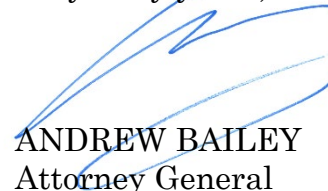
Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of December 2, 2024, submitting a fiscal note and fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for an initiative petition submitted by Winston Apple, 2026-002. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State governmental entities estimate no savings, initial costs of \$528,524, and ongoing costs of at least \$110,000 annually. Local governmental entities estimate no costs or savings.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,

A blue ink signature of Andrew Bailey is written over the text "ANDREW BAILEY".

ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 19, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 31-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

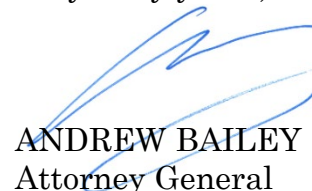
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 9, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article III, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Jamie Howard, 2026-009.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-033



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 19, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 32-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

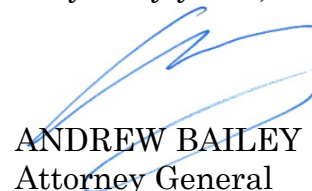
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 9, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article III, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Jamie Howard, 2026-010.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-034



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 19, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 33-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 11, 2024 for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Winston Apple, 2024-002. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow initiative petitions to be signed electronically with statements of support by eligible voters;
- require the governor to establish and maintain a system for electronically filing statements of support; and
- require the Secretary of State to create a form for electronic statements of support and make such statements publicly available?

Pursuant to § 116.334, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed statement. Because our review of the statement is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,

A blue ink signature of Andrew Bailey, written in a cursive style, is positioned above the printed name.

ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 23, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 34-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

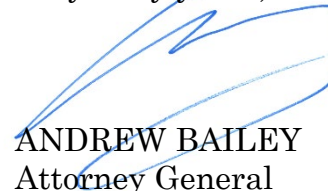
Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of December 12, 2024 , submitting a fiscal note and fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for an initiative petition submitted by Winston Apple, 26-003. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State governmental entities estimate initial costs of \$528,524 and ongoing costs of at least \$397,376 annually. Local governmental entities estimate no costs or savings.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-036



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 23, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 35-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

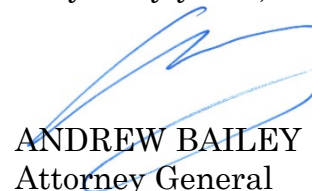
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 12, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article III, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Jamie Howard, 2026-011.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-037



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 26, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 36-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

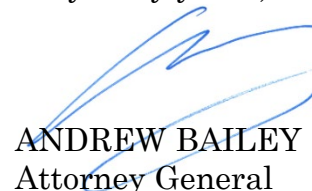
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 13, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article III, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Jamie Howard, 2026-012.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 26, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 37-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of December 16, 2024, submitting a fiscal note and fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-004. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State and local governmental entities estimate no direct costs or savings. Attempts to implement a local tobacco tax, or to modify an existing local tobacco tax, could result in changes in revenue or increased election related or other costs for these entities that would vary based on jurisdiction and election timing.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-039



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 26, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 38-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of December 16, 2024, submitting a fiscal note and fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-005. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State and local governmental entities estimate no direct costs or savings. Attempts to implement a local tobacco tax, or to modify an existing local tobacco tax, could result in changes in revenue or increased election related or other costs for these entities that would vary based on jurisdiction and election timing.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-040



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 26, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 39-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of December 16, 2024, submitting a fiscal note and fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-006. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State and local governmental entities estimate no direct costs or savings. Attempts to implement a local tobacco tax, or to modify an existing local tobacco tax, could result in changes in revenue or increased election related or other costs for these entities that would vary based on jurisdiction and election timing.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-041



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 26, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 40-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of December 16, 2024, submitting a fiscal note and fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-007. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State and local governmental entities estimate no direct costs or savings. Attempts to implement a local tobacco tax, or to modify an existing local tobacco tax, could result in changes in revenue or increased election related or other costs for these entities that would vary based on jurisdiction and election timing.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-042



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 26, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 41-2024

The Honorable Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor
State Capitol, Room 229
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Fitzpatrick:

This office received your letter of December 16, 2024, submitting a fiscal note and fiscal note summary prepared under § 116.175, RSMo, for an initiative petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-008. The fiscal note summary that you submitted is as follows:

State and local governmental entities estimate no direct costs or savings. Attempts to implement a local tobacco tax, or to modify an existing local tobacco tax, could result in changes in revenue or increased election related or other costs for these entities that would vary based on jurisdiction and election timing.

Under § 116.175.4, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the fiscal note summary. Because our review of the fiscal note summary is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition or as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents. Furthermore, our review under § 116.175.4 does not examine the fairness or sufficiency of the estimated fiscal impact.

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-043



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 30, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 42-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 17, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Katherine Floyd, Ch. 213, 2026-013.

We conclude that the petition must be rejected for at least the following reasons:

- failure to correctly address the signature sheet to the current secretary of state as required in Section 116.040;
- failure to correctly identify the petition on the signature sheet as a proposed change to the Missouri Revised Statutes rather than an amendment to the Missouri Constitution as required by Section 116.040.

Because of our rejection of the form of the petition for the reasons stated above, we have not reviewed the petition to determine whether additional deficiencies exist. Pursuant to § 116.332.4, RSMo, the Secretary of State is authorized to review this opinion and “make a final decision as to the approval or rejection of the form of the petition.”

Very truly yours,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

December 30, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 43-2024

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

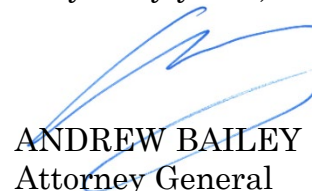
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 19, 2024 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article III, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Jamie Howard, 2026-014.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,

A blue ink signature of Andrew Bailey is written over the name and title.

ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General